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TRAPSHOOTING CLUB HANDBOOK

The
ORGANIZATION, EQUIPMENT
and MANAGEMENT
of TRAPSHOOTING CLUBS

Published by
E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Company
Trapshooting Division
Wilmington - - Delaware

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Wilmington, Delaware

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INTRODUCTION

TRAPSHOOTING is essentially social and competitive. While the individual may practice it alone, he cannot experience its real pleasures excepting under the stimulus of good fellowship and with its strong incentive to excel. Nor can the haphazard gatherings of friends and sportsmen be depended on for the fullest enjoyment at the traps. The shooter's interest and skill, to be sustained, must be regularly exercised. Whatever is casual and uncertain must be made definite and positive. There must be regular shooting days; a proper supervision of contests; an accurate record of scores; the combined interest and responsibility of participants. There must be systematic planning and concerted action. In short, there must be organization.

This booklet is intended to aid and direct those intending to organize, equip and conduct trapshooting clubs. We trust that clubs already in existence will also find in it much that is of interest to them.

Trapshooting Club Equipment. Trapper's House in the Foreground. Trap House and Platform are of Concrete. Benches and Gun Rack are for the Convenience of Shooters and Spectators

Showing the above Equipment in Operation at a Regular Saturday Afternoon Shoot

TRAPSHOOTING CLUB HANDBOOK

ORGANIZATION

Most trapshooting clubs are organized as community clubs and are open to general membership. An increasing number are being organized as adjuncts of social clubs, such as golf, yacht, and country clubs. Still others are formed among the members of manufacturing, fraternal and educational institutions. As the methods which apply to the organization of a community club govern all the rest, we treat those only.

In every case you must first interest enough people to make the club practical. This is not hard to do, and success is assured, if, at the outset, you can secure the earnest assistance of just a few others. See your friends first. As soon as three or four are pledged to support the movement you have a sufficient nucleus on which to work and may go ahead confidently with your general campaign.

Who Shall be Asked to Join?

The success of the club will depend mainly upon the number and quality of the members. Some of the most enthusiastic and best-conducted clubs in existence have memberships of only ten, fifteen or twenty good sportsmen, while some large clubs have hundreds of members. Perhaps you should strive for somewhere near the average, which is about fifty.

Interest the local trapshooters, if any. They love the sport and will be glad to help. See the game hunters; with game diminishing and the seasons restricted many of these sportsmen will eagerly join you. Talk trapshooting to business and professional men as an after-office-hours recreation; and do not forget that women and members of the clergy can enjoy trapshooting with dignity, and that the organization will be the better for their membership. Inspire every new recruit to talk of the club to his friends and get them to join also.

Assistance of Local Dealers

The local hardware and sporting goods dealers will profit by the formation of your club, and should give you their support. Many of them have complete lists of the sportsmen and hunters who would make desirable members. Some will wish to join themselves. These dealers can advise about the kinds and cost of equipment. Their practical knowledge of local conditions and affairs will be of great value; and perhaps you can hold your first meetings at some hardware or sporting goods store.

Assistance of Newspapers

The newspapers will welcome the organization of a trapshooting club because of the live news items which will follow. Have them announce the aims and objects of the club, the date of the first meeting, when that is decided upon; and request them to devote some space to general information about the sport itself. This will interest many that you have not approached, and will undoubtedly make it possible to enlist some members who might otherwise be overlooked.

Assistance of the Du Pont Company

A full list of the prospective members of the club should be sent to the Du Pont Company as quickly as possible. To each of these we will send a copy of our booklet, "The Sport Alluring." This booklet will increase their interest; and make them anxious for the club to be formed. It also contains many useful hints to beginners which they will find of use later.

Calling the First Meeting

When a few sportsmen have signified their intention of joining a club, if organized, it is time to call the first meeting to consider the prospects and possibilities. Try to schedule the meeting for an evening when you know the greatest number of the prospective members will be able to attend. In addition to posting a notice of the meeting in the local papers, it is well to send a letter or card of invitation to all prospective members. This form would be appropriate:

Dear Brother Sportsman:

You are cordially invited to attend a meeting to be held at (give street and number) on (day of week) (month) (date) at (hour) o'clock, for the purpose of organizing a trapshooting club.

Trapshooting is good sport and brings together many good fellows who are interested in shooting, hunting and game preservation. Such a club will make much desirable publicity for our town, and will provide many valuable prizes and trophies for which we can shoot, as well as keep us in practice for the hunting season. It will enable us to work together for better game and fish laws and for the conservation of our forests and streams.

We need your support and advice, and count upon seeing you at the meeting.

Yours sincerely,

(have two or more signatures).

Committee.

Matters for Discussion at the First Meeting

The meeting should be called to order by one of the committee or by some other prominent citizen. Then a good, live temporary chairman should be elected. If possible have one of the interested parties give a short talk on trapshooting, covering the social and physical benefits in the sport. Invite expressions from the other sportsmen present and give everyone an opportunity to express whatever opinions he may have. Now take the sense of the meeting as to whether or not the proposed movement is feasible, and if it is, make up a list of those who say they will join and of the friends whom they think they can interest.

You are now warranted in going ahead with the actual formation of the club. It is not policy to attempt a complete organization at the first meeting, but at least the following ground should be covered:

Initiation Fee—Annual Dues

These should be made reasonable and at the same time provide sufficient funds to get the club properly started. With an assured membership of forty, most clubs would manage well on an initiation fee of two or three dollars and yearly dues of one dollar, all payable in advance. With that sum a piece of ground could be rented, a trap secured and a shelter erected, if no building on the ground would serve that purpose. With a larger membership the initiation fee might be reduced, while a much smaller number might make an increase necessary.

Committees

The chairman should appoint a committee to draft a constitution and by-laws, and a second committee to look up available gun club sites; and these committees should be urged to have their reports ready for the next meeting.

Charter Members

As it is considered an honor to be a charter member of any live club, it is well to agree that all sportsmen making application for membership within thirty days from the present meeting and whose applications are accepted will be considered charter members.

Arrange for the Next Meeting

Do not make the first meeting too long. Select an acceptable date for your next meeting and send the prospective members away enthusiastic over the club. Before separating impress on everyone the importance of attending the next meeting and of bringing a friend along, also delegate someone to give the newspapers a full account of the proceedings and prospects. Have them publish the date of the next meeting and extend another invitation to all sportsmen to attend. Newspaper publicity, and lots of it, will help wonderfully.

The Second Meeting

The temporary chairman, after calling the second meeting to order, should add to the original list any new persons who signify their intention of joining, and all those on the completed list should be eligible to discuss the recommendations made by the committees and to participate in the election of officers.

Selection of Officers

The majority of clubs get along nicely with a president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer and field captain. Other clubs have two or more vice-presidents; some also add an executive committee. In many cases the offices of secretary and treasurer are filled by one man.

Only men of good standing in the community should be elected to office. The greatest care should be exercised in the selection of a secretary, as the burden of the work falls on that official, and on his application and ability the success of the club depends. Have it understood that for compensation the secretary is to have a proportion of his targets and shells free at regular club shoots, and without making him ineligible to compete for prizes the same as other members.

Committees

The president should appoint a membership committee, a committee on club house and grounds, a trophy committee, handicap

committee and entertainment committee, and should instruct them in their duties. As it is inadvisable that a few men should monopolize the positions of honor in the club, such committees should be appointed for periods of six months or a year, when other active members should be given an opportunity to serve.

Naming the Club

A title suggestive of the sport should be selected as a name for the club. Many clubs use the words "Trapshooting Club" as the conclusion of the name. This prevents all confusion with rifle and revolver clubs whose scores may be printed in the same papers, and leaves no doubt in any reader's mind as to just what kind of a club is meant.

Honorary Members

Many trapshooting clubs elect prominent citizens of the community as honorary members. These members pay no dues, but their affiliation with the organization works to its advantage. Honorary memberships are often extended to the professional trapshooters, and representatives of the gun, ammunition and powder manufacturers, as a courtesy in appreciation of the favors and assistance extended by these gentlemen to the club from time to time.

Associate Members

Some provision should be made for sportsmen who do not live in your community, but who visit it often on business or pleasure trips, and who would not be eligible to compete for club prizes except as members. If they reside in the same county they should be made active members of the club upon payment of the regular initiation fee and dues. If they live in some other county or state, the privilege of taking out an associate membership should be extended to them. With such memberships the initiation fee should be waived and yearly dues for a nominal amount, say one dollar, should be assessed.

Constitution and By-Laws

These should be as short, simple and explicit as possible. The following form includes all the essential features and is such as is in use by many of the most successful trapshooting clubs in the country. With a few minor changes it will serve the purpose of almost any club that adopts it :

Constitution and By-Laws of the .....Trapshooting Club

Name and Object

The name of this club shall be the..... Trapshooting Club of....., and is organized to promote the art of trapshooting, to influence the proper protection of game and fish, and to foster good fellowship among sportsmen.

Membership

The membership of this club shall consist of such true sportsmen as may care to associate themselves together for the above purposes.

Officers

The officers of this club shall consist of a president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer and field captain, who shall be elected by ballot at the annual meeting which shall be held on the first regular meeting day in each year.

Duties of Officers

It shall be the duty of the president to call meetings of the members of the club, preside at all regular business meetings, and to have general supervision of the affairs of the club.

The vice-president shall, in the absence of the president, assume and exercise all the duties of that official.

The secretary shall keep all scores and records of the club in books adapted to that purpose, and shall have charge of the clerical work incidental to all shoots and tournaments, and be responsible for the correctness of the same.

The treasurer shall collect all moneys due from members. He shall keep all funds belonging to the club and be responsible for the same, paying only such vouchers as the officers shall approve.

The field captain shall have charge of the shooting range, the care of ground property; and the conduct of practice and tournament work shall be under his direction.

Meetings

Meetings of the club shall be held as the members may elect at the annual meeting, or upon the call of the president, or of any three members when such call is presented in writing.

Fees

The yearly membership fees of this club shall be....., payable annually in advance. The initiation fee of.....shall be payable with each application for membership.

By-Laws

1. The price of targets for all occasions shall be.....cents each, except in regular tournaments when price shall be fixed by proper officers.

2. Members wishing to shoot on other than club meeting days shall pay for the hire of trappers and for such incidental expenses as they may incur. Members entertaining friends shall be responsible for their conduct and expense.

3. It is the purpose of this club to limit the flight of targets within a reasonable range. The maximum distance for throwing targets shall be fifty yards.

4. There shall be no sweep-stakes or shooting for money at the regular practice meets, all pecuniary considerations being strictly confined to tournaments.

5. Program for club shoots shall call for not over 25 targets. No member may shoot at more than 50 targets during any one club shoot. Members wishing to have this rule waived will be charged at twice the regular rate for all targets shot at in excess of 50.

6. A quorum shall consist of.....members without which number no business may be legally transacted at any meeting.

7. This constitution and by-laws may be amended or altered by the vote of a majority of members in attendance at any meeting where at least two-thirds of the entire membership are present, providing written notice of such proposed change shall have been given all members at least ten days prior to the date of the meeting.

Incorporation

Many clubs prefer to exist as corporate bodies, especially where there is a possibility that property will be acquired, and permanency seems assured. Articles of incorporation can be prepared by any attorney, and the necessary steps taken to have them made legal, at a nominal charge. A club often has an attorney in its membership who will gladly undertake any legal work gratis.

When the Club is Organized

As soon as the club is organized, it will be well to send its name and the names and addresses of its officers to the Trapshooting Division of the Du Pont Company, Wilmington, Del. These will be placed on our mailing list to receive new advertising matter, interesting and instructive literature, and announcements of our attractive trophy offers for gun clubs and individuals, as they are issued.

If you desire information in regard to the practices and conduct of some other trapshooting club which you know to be successful, but, as a stranger, hesitate to request this information direct, our Trapshooting Division, which is in close touch with all the clubs in the country, will obtain the information for you, if advised of its nature.

Our experts will shoot with your club whenever possible, and will be eager to render every service in their power. This company is interested in your success and anxious to further it in every possible way. Put your problems up to us as they appear, and depend upon our interest, our experience and our desire to cooperate at all times.

TRAPSHOOTING CLUB EQUIPMENT

As your club is well organized and is to be conducted by competent officials, and as the sport of trapshooting will always be popular, it is safe and proper to plan for permanency from the very start. Make all your dispositions and arrangements with this idea in mind, and as far as your means will permit, provide also for the healthy growth which other clubs experience and which you must reasonably anticipate.

Patronize local dealers when purchasing the equipment and supplies to be suggested for the club, and foster this idea among the members for their individual requirements of guns, shells and other accessories. Your local dealers are entitled to this preference, and the community interest on which your club is founded demands it. Whatever favors you extend to dealers at home will be reciprocated by them, as they are in position to help and further your club in many ways.

Selection of Grounds

Grounds should be conveniently located and easy of access. A site with a good auto road leading to it, and not over fifteen minutes' walk or twenty minutes' ride by trolley from the business section should be secured if possible.

It is often possible to secure unused river front sites, which make excellent locations when the background is good. Frequently, also, a club may be located in a ball park, motor speedway or fair grounds where shoots are free from interference, excepting on rare occasions. In large cities it is often impossible to secure suitable grounds nearer than thirty, or even sixty minutes' ride by train or trolley, but the men of those cities are accustomed and reconciled to long rides and loss of time. In several of the largest cities the authorities devote a piece of land, usually in some park, where the general public may enjoy trapshooting under municipal control. A like concession might be obtained in many other cities if requested.

Layout of the Grounds

The amount of ground required for a trapshooting club varies with the number of traps installed. The following dimensions are adequate:

1	trap,	grounds	should	be	250	yards	long	and	100	yards wide.
2	"	"	"	"	250	"	"	"	130	" "
3	"	"	"	"	250	"	"	"	160	" "
4	"	"	"	"	250	"	"	"	190	" "
5	"	"	"	"	250	"	"	"	220	" "

The grounds should be entirely free from buildings frequented by people or animals who might in any way come within gun range. A trap should not be closer than twenty-five yards to any other trap, and as a general rule, traps should be so located as to throw the targets towards the north or northeast. It is necessary to allow 250 yards free space in front of the traps, for although a charge of shot will not carry that distance, there exists a rare possibility of a charge of shot "balling" which increases its range.

The background is an important consideration. Targets should not be thrown in the direction of nearby trees, hills or buildings, if it can be avoided. This would make it difficult to follow their flight, especially on dark days. A level field or body of water furnishes an excellent background. The traps should be far enough from the water's edge so that unbroken targets, "pick-ups," can be recovered.

The Club House

Trapshooting is an all-year-round sport, and the only out-of-door game in which the contests are not postponed because of inclement weather. The matter of suitable shelter is, therefore, a first consideration. It is not necessary that the club house be unduly pretentious or expensive. It will be used but a few days each month and should combine simplicity with comfort. In planning a club house bear in mind that extensions can be made when warranted, but that a club starting under a heavy debt is greatly handicapped. The Du Pont Company will furnish free, upon application, blue-prints and drawings of trap layouts and of club houses, the latter varying in estimated cost from under two hundred to over two thousand dollars.

Traps and Installation

Here the new club will also find it advisable to proceed in a modest way, adding to its equipment as conditions warrant. There are various types of traps, among which one or more will come within the requirements and the funds of any club. A letter or postal to any manufacturer listed below will secure a catalog by return mail. *The prices quoted are subject to change and, excepting the Du Pont Hand Trap, are F. O. B. point of manufacture.* Your local dealer will give you the price that is right in your locality when you place your order.

Name of trap	Manufactured by	Price
*Du Pont Hand Trap	E. I. Du Pont de Nemours & Co., Wilmington, Delaware	$4.00
Extension Spring Trap	Chamberlain Cartridge and Target Co., Cleveland, Ohio	4.50
Practice Trap	Western Cartridge Co., Alton, Illinois	6.00
The Expert Trap	Chamberlain Cartridge and Target Co., Cleveland, Ohio	6.50
The Leggett Jr. Trap	Chamberlain Cartridge and Target Co., Cleveland, Ohio	35.00
†Ideal Leggett Trap	Chamberlain Cartridge and Target Co., Cleveland, Ohio	
‡Western Automatic Trap	Western Cartridge Co., Alton, Illinois	35.00
Black Diamond Trap	Black Products Company, Chicago, Illinois	35.00

Targets

Consult your local dealer about targets. He can draw on the stock of his nearest jobber and supply you quickly in any quantity. As freight is an important item in the cost of targets the price varies exceedingly in different territories. The names and manufacturers of clay targets follow:

Name of Target	Manufactured by	
Blue Rock	Chamberlain Cartridge and Target Co.	Cleveland, Ohio.
White Flyer	Western Cartridge Company	Alton, Illinois.
Black Diamond	Black Products Company	Chicago, Illinois.
Morrill	Morrill Target Company	Omaha, Nebraska.
Canadian Blackbird	Nelson Long	Hamilton, Ontario.

Bulletin Board

Every club should have a bulletin board on which to post the names and initials of contestants and all scores made in club shoots or tournaments, as well as other matters of interest to the members. Scores should be posted as soon as each squad finishes shooting. *Nothing else will create more interest in the club and the sport than this very simple matter.*

Score Board for Squad Sheets

At all tournaments and registered shoots the scores are recorded on standard squad sheets, held upon a score board in plain sight of the

*The Du Pont Hand Trap is delivered anywhere in the United States. Orders for shipment into Canada should be sent to the Dominion Cartridge Co., Ltd., Canadian agents. This trap can be easily and quickly adjusted to throw any target perfectly.

†The Ideal Leggett Trap is leased, not sold, to gun clubs who agree that only "Blue Rock" targets will be thrown with it. The rental charge is $30.00 for the first year and $10.00 for each succeeding year. A refund of $15.00 is made on the return of the trap to the manufacturer.

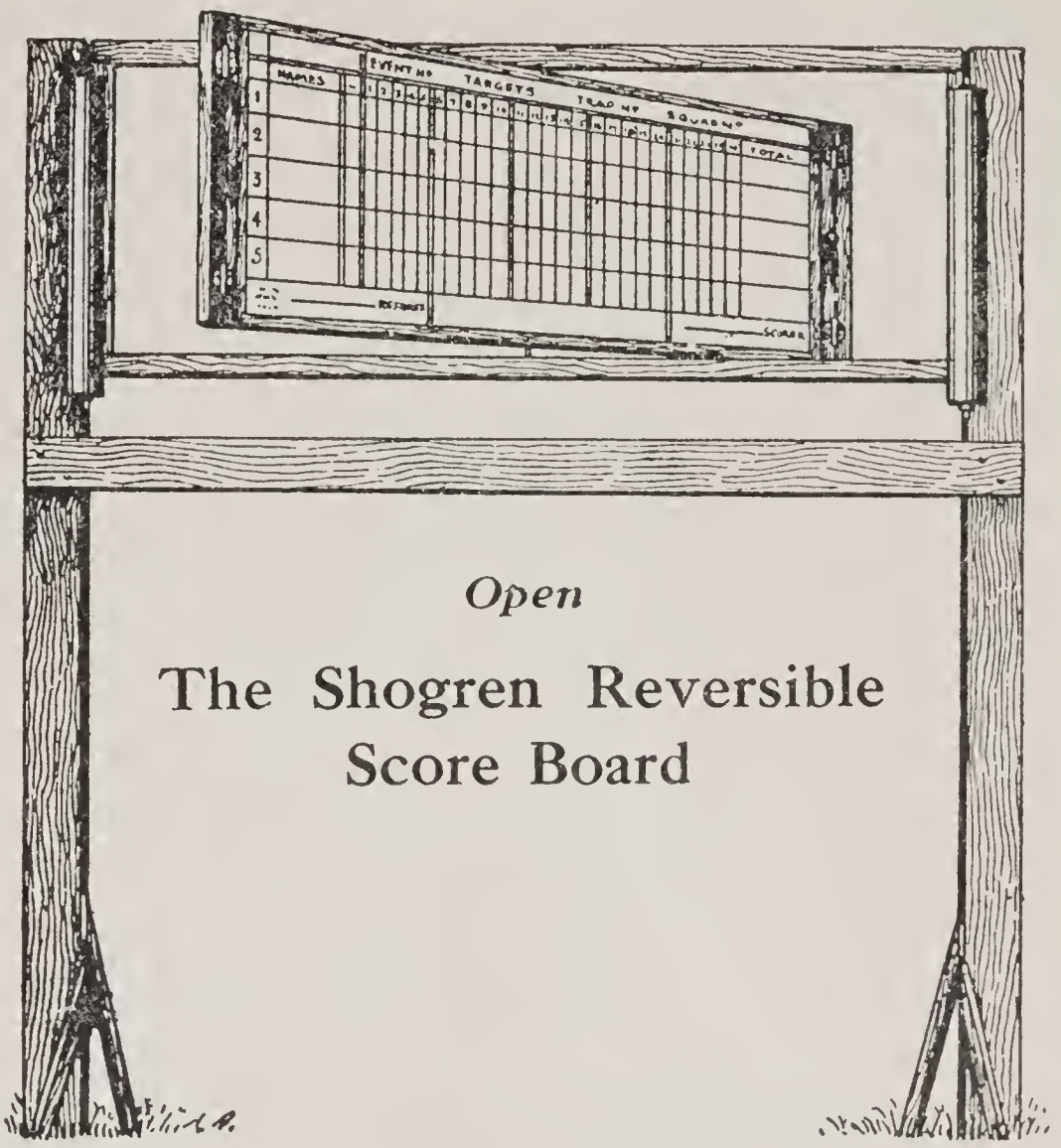
The rental on each additional Ideal Leggett Trap is $15.00 for the first and $5.00 for each succeeding year, with no rebate when returned.

‡The Western Automatic Trap equipped with an attachment for throwing doubles is sold at $40.00. The double attachment alone is $10.00 and may be added at any time.

contestants. We will furnish free blue prints of a satisfactory score board in which the board itself can be removed from its supports and taken into the club house after using.

Reversible Score Board

We illustrate the Shogren Reversible Score Board, which has every good feature. This is sold by E. B. Shogren, First National Bank Building, Chicago, Ill.

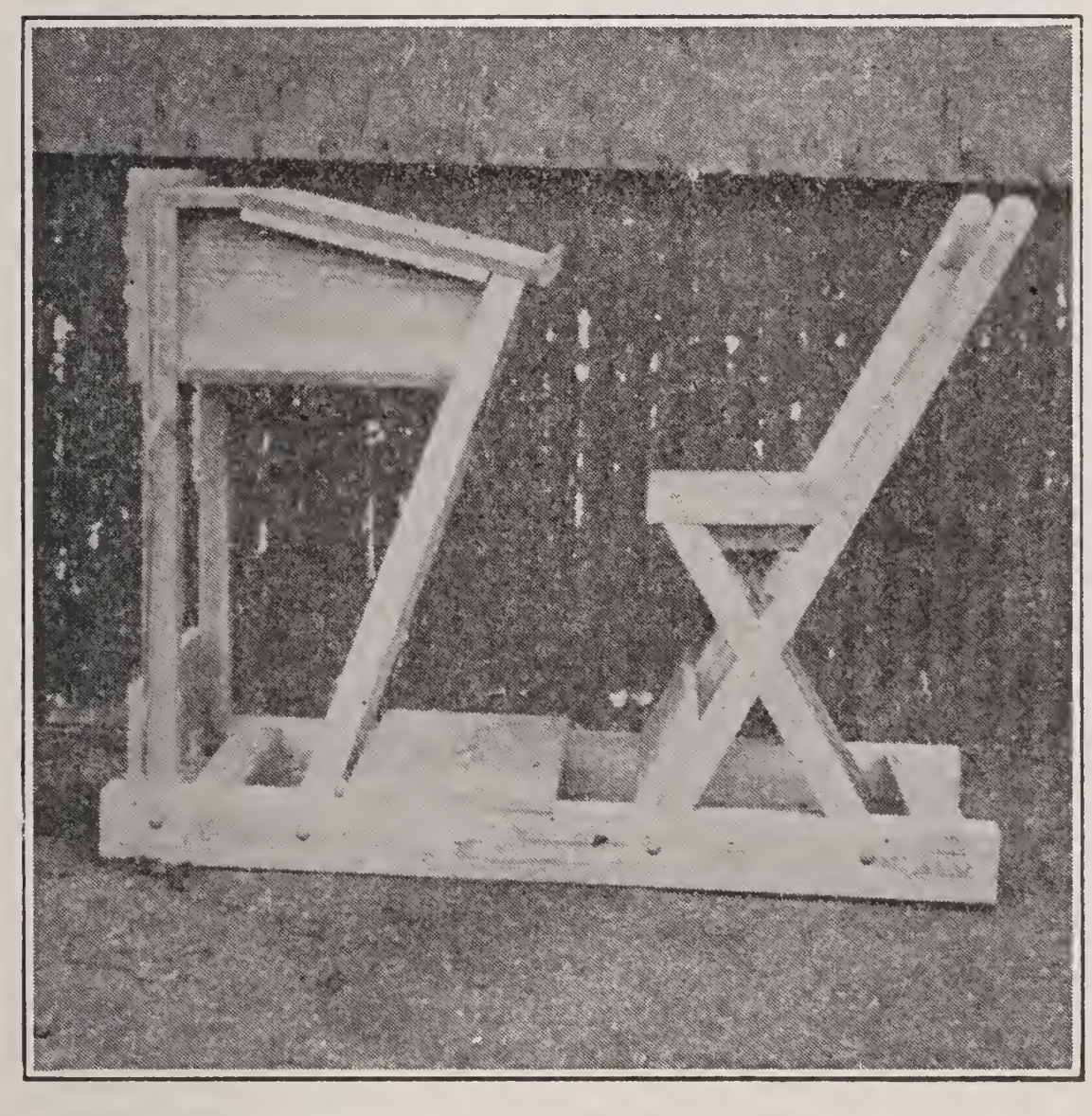


Open

The Shogren Reversible Score Board

A Handy Field Desk and Chair

We illustrate a handy combination field desk and chair. Blue prints of same will be furnished free to anyone desiring them.



This combination can be built by any carpenter or handy club member for a very moderate sum, usually not over $5.00, figuring lumber and labor at market prices. The outfit will prove to be a very great convenience and a valuable addition to any club's equipment. It is sure to be worth a great many times its small cost.

Write for blue prints.

Squad Sheets

The large squad sheets for use on outside score boards are used quite generally in tournaments, match races, etc., and every club should have a supply on hand. The average rate at which they are sold is $1.25 in lots of 100 and $1.00 per hundred in lots of 500 and up. They may be obtained from any of the following:

J. C. Garland, 237-239 First Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa.
Howard George, 4359 Frankford Ave., Frankford, Philadelphia, Pa.
The Price Co., 238 Calvert Street, Baltimore, Md.
E. K. Tryon, 611 Market Street, Philadelphia, Pa.
World Printing Co., 5429 Market Street, Philadelphia, Pa.
Sportsmen's Review, 15-27 West Sixth Street, Cincinnati, Ohio.
R. S. Elliott Arms Co., Kansas City, Mo.
Kirkwood Bros., 23 Elm Street, Boston, Mass.
Fleet-McGinley Co., South and Water Streets, Baltimore, Md.
H. C. Ammann & Co., Peotone, Ill.

Score Pads and Score Cards

Score pads and score cards which are a great convenience in running club shoots may be obtained without cost from the Du Pont Company. Write for them and a supply will be sent you.

A-542 (Apr. '15).

DU PONT

STANDARD SMOKELESS SHOTGUN POWDERS

DUPONT 3 1¼C7½ | BALLISTITE 25 1¼-7½ C | SCHULTZE 3⅛ 1¼-7½ C | EMPIRE 3⅛ 1¼ 7½ C

The Old Reliable Brands That Make And Break Records

A FURTHER SUPPLY OF THESE SCORE PADS WILL BE FURNISHED ON APPLICATION TO DU PONT, WILMINGTON, DEL.

A HINT TO CLUB SECRETARIES

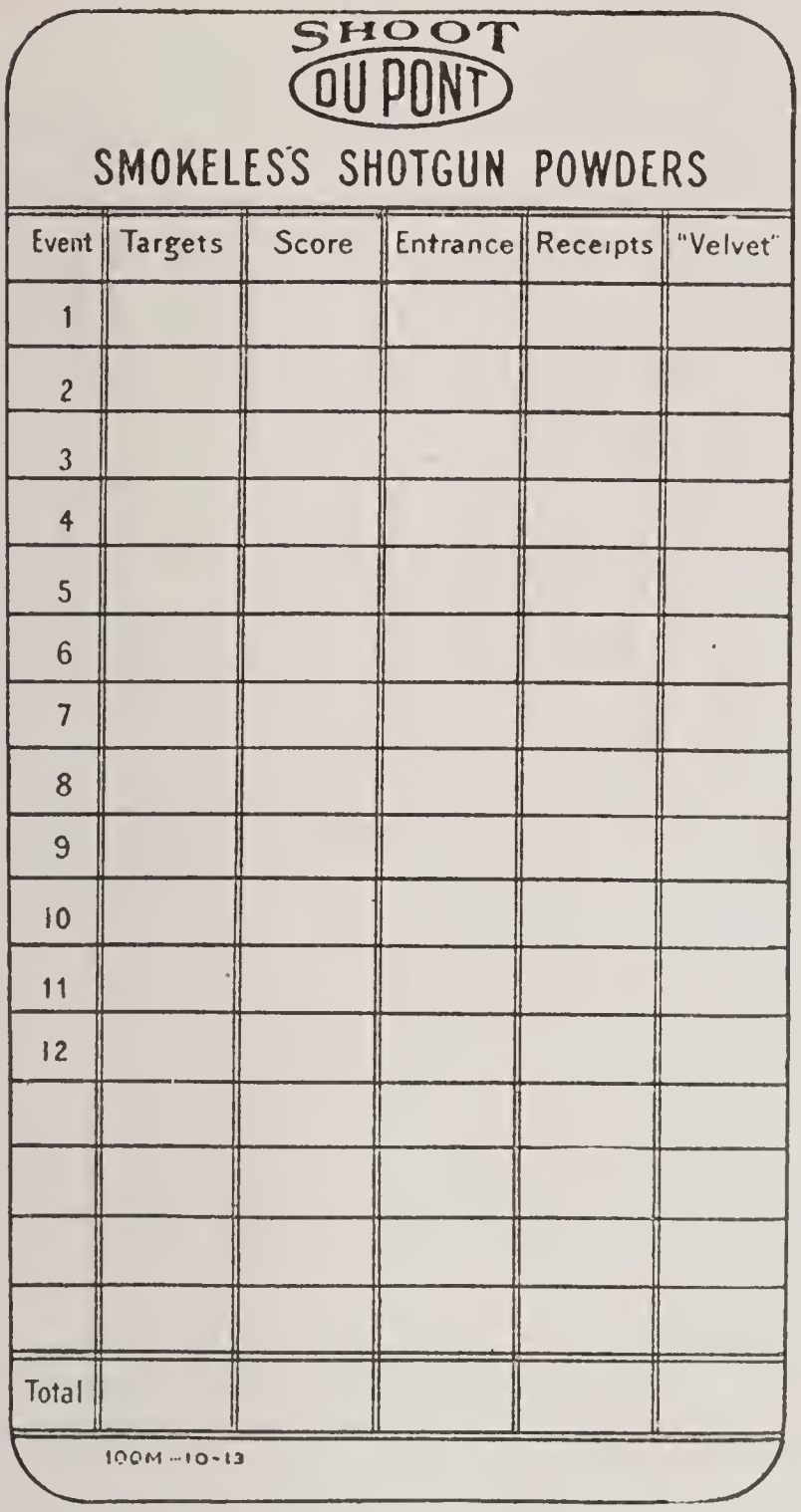
KEEP YOUR CLUB TO THE FRONT AND HELP THE SPORT ALONG BY MAILING REPORTS OF YOUR TOURNAMENTS AND CLUB SHOOTS TO THE SPORTSMEN'S PAPERS. SOME OF THESE ARE: FOREST AND STREAM, 22 THAMES ST., NEW YORK, AMERICAN FIELD, MASONIC TEMPLE, CHICAGO; SPORTSMEN'S REVIEW, 15 WEST SIXTH ST., CINCINNATI, SPORTING LIFE, 34 SOUTH THIRD ST., PHILADELPHIA.

CLUB..... OF..... DATE.....

TARGETS..... ENTRANCE..... EVENT No..... CONDITIONS.....

	Hdcp.	NAME	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	TOTAL
1																												
2																												
3																												
4																												
5																												
6																												
7																												

Du Pont Score Pad


SHOOT
DU PONT
SMOKELESS SHOTGUN POWDERS

Event	Targets	Score	Entrance	Receipts	"Velvet"
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					
Total					

100M-10-13

Du Pont Score Card—⅔ Actual Size

Cashier and Bulletin Sheets

The cashier sheets are a great convenience to the cashier or manager of the shoots, being complete in every respect and adapted to any system of money division. The bulletin sheets are intended for use in posting the scores, event by event, on the bulletin board, where they may be seen by the contestants. The Du Pont Company will send, without charge, to any club requesting them a supply of cashier and bulletin sheets sufficient to run a shoot or tournament.

Record Book

A record book is a necessity for a trapshooting club if any kind of system is to be maintained in keeping the scores. Books specially arranged for this purpose are furnished by AMERICAN FIELD PUBLISHING COMPANY, Chicago, Ill., and by SPORTSMEN'S REVIEW, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Cleaning Rods, Gun Oil, Etc.

Every club should keep handy a well filled oil can, a few cheap cleaning rods and some small pieces of cheese cloth or canton flannel. Their cost is as nothing compared with the appreciation of the shooters. See that no oiled rags are left in the club house, as spontaneous combustion may start a fire among them.

Attention to Equipment

Before the shoot starts the trap house should be filled with targets, and the trap, or traps, should be cleaned, oiled and regulated. It is very aggravating to most shooters if all these things have to be attended to after they arrive, and should this happen regularly they will soon lose interest in the club.

Trap Operators

The trap operators should be reliable and on hand when needed. It takes two boys or men to operate one automatic or expert type trap, and three to properly operate three expert type traps. Members of the club will not want to do this work, although when necessary someone will always volunteer as "puller."

Referees, Scorers and Squad Hustlers

Members of the club will always be willing to fill these positions. Those who are most familiar with the rules of the sport should be delegated as referees. A copy of the booklet, "Trapshooting Rules," should be at hand for reference. On request, the Du Pont Company will send you a liberal supply of these without charge.

The work of scoring and of calling the squads to their places at the traps is not hard, and is usually pleasant to anyone interested. Help can be hired to do all of this work if necessary, but only at a sacrifice of funds which might otherwise be expended for trophies.

Empty Shells

The empty shells should be gathered immediately after each shoot, and not allowed to lay out in the weather. They have a considerable value for the brass that is in them and net the club a good revenue. They should be packed in empty target barrels and shipped to one of the following concerns, who make a business of handling them, or they can be sold to local junk dealers, who are always ready to buy them.

Among the concerns handling empty shells are:

H. B. Fisher	7125 Woodlawn Ave.	Philadelphia, Pa.
R. S. Elliott Arms Co.	Kansas City	Missouri.
F. P. Jebb	Atglen	Pennsylvania.
Chas. Centex	Riverside Ave.	Wellington, Mass.
Lehman Bros.	Hoboken	New Jersey.
Thomas Potter	Waverly	New Jersey.

The price paid for empty shells depends upon the condition in which the shells arrive, and upon the market value of brass. It is not necessary to burn the paper away from the brass before shipping, and it is desirable to find out in advance approximately what the club will get out of them.

CONDUCTING A TRAPSHOOTING CLUB

Organization and equipment have made your trapshooting club possible; only careful management and the sustained interest of your membership can make it successful. This interest can be easily directed into habits of permanency or as easily misled into dissipation and decline. What methods to pursue and which to avoid, that your club may accomplish its purpose to the utmost, are problems to which your officials and committees must give careful attention.

In the following pages we aim to assist them by explaining plans that have made many trapshooting clubs successful; and by glancing at pitfalls into which other clubs have fallen.

Shooting Days and Number of Targets

"Too much shooting with its harmful reactions" is the rock upon which many a promising club has foundered. The most successful and long-lived clubs are those that encourage moderate indulgence in the sport by having regular, but not too frequent shoots, and by limiting the members to a reasonable number of targets each day.

While each club must be governed by local conditions, two regular shooting days per month will be judicious for most. Once a week is not too often for some clubs; twice a week should be avoided by all. In every case occasional holiday tournaments, merchandise races, etc., can be made to serve as added attractions.

In deciding the number of targets to be allowed each member, it is well to consider that there is a limit to the purses of most members, as well as to their desire for competition; and that it is better to send them home hungry for more shooting and eager for the next regular club day than to have them expend too much enthusiasm and too much money at one time, when their visits will soon become intermittent or cease entirely.

Some smaller clubs limit their members to twenty-five targets each regular shooting day, and in order that the full afternoon may be pleasantly spent, the members shoot "one man up" at five targets, until all have shot their quota of twenty-five. In this style of shooting a man starts at No. 1 position and moves up one after each five shots, or after each shot, if preferred.

Other clubs place the limit at fifty targets, but use only the scores made in the first twenty-five in figuring the winner of any

trophy that may be offered, the second string of twenty-five being considered as "practice" shooting. This is a very equitable arrangement, as it gives the wealthy shooter no advantage over the man who can afford but twenty-five targets in an afternoon. Some clubs allow members to exceed the regular target limit by paying double the regular rate for all targets shot at in excess of the limit, the surplus being used for the purchase of prizes.

Regulating the Targets

The official rules of trapshooting describe a fair or regulation target as one "thrown not less than forty-five yards nor more than fifty-five yards, with a flight between six and twelve feet high at a point ten yards from the trap." Targets should never be thrown harder than the rules require. To do so is fatal, because it discourages the beginner, handicaps the more experienced, disgusts visitors and destroys that pride in good scores which is the chief satisfaction every shooter should find in the sport.

Committees and Their Functions

Up to this point the progress of your trapshooting club has been largely determined by the membership as a whole. Henceforward its activities must be directed almost entirely by various committees appointed for that purpose.

Membership Committee

Many trapshooting clubs progress finely for a long time, but eventually get into a rut where interest and enthusiasm are lacking, and it is hard to get a representative crowd out to shoot. This is the beginning of the end unless new members, which are essential to the continued success of any organization, can be secured.

It is far wiser to anticipate this condition by having at all times an active membership committee of at least five, acting with a chairman who is a live wire. Each should endeavor to secure at least one new member per month, and they should be aided by every other member doing his utmost to induce friends and acquaintances to join. Special trophies may be offered to be contested for by new members; the initiation fee may be reduced or taken off during certain periods and various other means employed to encourage desirable persons to join. The permanency of the club and the enjoyment of the individual members increase greatly as the total membership increases.

Entertainment Committee

This committee should be composed of from three to five members, whose duty it is to see that visitors receive every courtesy and have an opportunity of shooting if they wish. Whenever matches of special interest are scheduled the entertainment committee should invite attendance, both personally and through the papers, and make the necessary arrangements for their comfort. They will also take charge of banquets, or the serving of food or refreshments of any kind incidental to the shoots.

Trophy Committee

Every club should have a trophy committee to secure suitable prizes and arrange the contests at which they will be offered. These trophies and prizes may be secured:

1. By purchase with club funds.
2. By solicitation and donation from prominent members and business houses.
3. By charging those who compete a special entrance fee to cover the cost of the trophy.

Club funds available for trophies will come from the small net profit in the sale of shells and targets, and from the surplus revenue derived from dues and initiation fees.

Dealers in hardware and sporting goods, jewelry and other lines, and very often the local hotels will donate articles of merchandise for the publicity they will receive. Prominent men, interested in the club, will often offer a cup or other prize to be shot for in a series of events.

The trophy committee may be empowered to purchase prizes and charge those who shoot for them a pro rata share of the cost, in addition to the price of the targets. In every case trophies should be prominently displayed in one or more of the store windows about town for some time prior to the shoot. This will create interest and will be appreciated by the dealers exhibiting trophies for its advertising value to them.

Du Pont Trophies

From time to time the Du Pont Company offers attractive trophies to trapshooting clubs, to be used as prizes in regular club contests. These trophies are furnished absolutely free to active and deserving clubs. Be sure to write for information concerning them.

Handicap Committee

The duty of the Handicap Committee is to arrange the handicaps for the trophies and prizes contested for, so that every shooter's chance shall be adjusted to his ability. There should be at least three members of this committee, selected because of their knowledge of the trapshooting game, their interest in the success of the club and their desire to be fair and just with all contestants. The secretary should act in an advisory capacity to the committee, so that the records of the shooters may be available.

The basis for handicapping is "the known shooting ability of the contestants in the best judgment of the committee." Where the record of a contestant is not known, he should be required to state it. Any misstatement may disqualify a contestant from participating for prizes.

Handicap Systems

Various systems are used in conducting handicap contests for prizes and trophies. There is no one system which gives universal satisfaction. The distance handicap, added target or dead bird handicap, and sliding handicap, all have their friends and are widely used. Explanations are given here of several systems that are in general favor.

The Class System

This system seeks to arrange the shooters of nearly equal ability into classes or divisions. It works best when separate trophies are provided for each class, so that a division of expert shots will not be contesting for the same trophy as a division of mediocre shooters. The number of classes may vary from two to six, depending upon the number of shooters and the number of prizes offered.

It is essential that the make up of the classes be changed from time to time to take care of those who have no chance to win from being classed too high; and to advance into higher classes those who have improved with practice and become too expert for the other shooters in their division. Where there are only two or three classes and a wide range of ability still exists in each division, contests between members of the division may be on a distance handicap basis that will further equalize their chances. Some clubs rule that a Class A shooter can win but one prize in any month; and that the winning of a trophy in any lower class automatically advances that shooter into the next higher class.

The classification for different numbers of classes is arranged by percentages about as follows:

5 Classes	*4 Classes*	*3 Classes*	*2 Classes*
A—92% and up	A—90% and up	A—88% and up	A—All over 85%
B—86 to 92%	B—80 to 90%	B—75 to 88%	B—All under 85%
C—76 to 86%	C—70 to 80%	C—75% and under	
D—65 to 76%	D—70% and under		
E—65% and under			

The Added Target Handicap System

The special advantages of this system are that it is simple and easily understood; it eliminates all necessity of handicapping by a committee, as each shooter handicaps himself automatically; and it insures keen competition throughout.

Presuming the club is inaugurating a series of shoots for a trophy, the plan is as follows:

Each shooter enters the first event with a handicap based on his previous records, handicapping himself for each succeeding event by the actual number of targets broken in the event before, no shooter to be credited with more added targets in an event than would make him a perfect score. The scale of this handicap, based on a twenty-five target event is as follows:

A shooter breaking	23,	24	or	25	receives	"0"	added targets.
"	"	"		22	"	"1"	"
"	"	"		21	"	"2"	"
"	"	"		20	"	"3"	"
"	"	"		19	"	"4"	"
"	"	"		18	"	"5"	"
"	"	"		17	"	"6"	"
"	"	"		16	"	"7"	"
"	"	"		15	"	"8"	"

Explanation

"A" is a shooter with a previous average of 23 or better out of 25, hence he will receive "0" added targets at the first shoot. At this first shoot he breaks 20, and as he was to receive no added targets, his score for that shoot remains at 20. However, his breaking only 20 entitles him to "3" added targets on the second shoot. At the second shoot he breaks 23, which, with his allowance of "3," gives him a perfect score of 25, *not 26*. Having broken 23 the scale allows him "0" added targets for the third shoot, and so on throughout the series. The winner of the series will be the contestant making the highest total score in all the events.

The Distance Handicap

This is probably the best known and most generally used of the various systems of handicapping. Handicaps range from 16 to 23 yards, and where the committee does its work well close contests should result. Based on averages made at 16-yard targets, the following handicaps are suggested, with the proviso that they be adjusted to the needs of the individual, as some shooters' scores will be only slightly affected at increased distances, while others will suffer severely, and this must be considered if an equitable contest is to result:

Shooters who average			95% or over,	23 yards.
"	"	"	92 to 94%	22 "
"	"	"	89 to 91%	21 "
"	"	"	86 to 88%	20 "
"	"	"	83 to 85%	19 "
"	"	"	80 to 82%	18 "
"	"	"	77 to 79%	17 "
"	"	"	76% or under	16 "

Sliding Handicap

The sliding system of handicapping re-handicaps the contestants after each five shots. All shooters start at 16 yards. A contestant breaking five straight then goes to the 17-yard mark, and goes back an additional yard for each additional five straight broken. Missing two in five, he goes forward one yard, providing, of course, that no one can go farther back than the 23-yard mark or farther forward than the 16-yard mark. This handicap gives greater satisfaction when the difference in shooting ability of the participants is slight than when the difference is considerable.

Combination Distance and Added Target System

Where the actual shooting average for all club members can be readily determined for any given period, this form of handicap can be used very nicely. Under any other conditions results would be doubtful. The basis for using this system follows:

Known percentage of shooter	97–96–95–94–93–92–91–90–89–88–87–86
Distance handicap in yards	23–23–23–22–22–22–21–21–21–20–20–20
Added target handicap	0– 1– 2– 3– 4– 5– 6– 7– 8– 9–10–11
Known percentage of shooter	85–84–83–82–81–80–79–78–77–76 and under
Distance handicap in yards	19–19–19–18–18–18–17–17–17–16
Added target handicap	12–13–14–15–16–17–18–19–20–21

Combination Class System and Added Target Handicap

In clubs where the shooters are divided into classes, an added target handicap can be used to very good advantage when all classes compete for one trophy. The number of targets added in each class may be varied to meet local needs, but the following will give a working basis:

Class	A	shooters	receive	0 or 1	added	targets	in	25
"	B	"	"	2 or 3	"	"	"	25
"	C	"	"	4 or 5	"	"	"	25
"	D	"	"	6 or 7	"	"	"	25
"	E	"	"	8 or 9	"	"	"	25

Note: When Class A shooters receive 0 targets, all other classes receive the smaller number, and vice versa.

Lewis Class System

This system does not modify the conditions of the contest or the scores of the contestants in any way. It does not come into action until the shoot is over, when it takes the scores made as a basis for the equitable distribution of the trophies, its awards being automatic.

How the System Operates

All the scores are arranged in numerical order, from the highest to the lowest in the entire event or program, and are then divided into from two to five equal groups or classes, which, beginning with the class containing the highest scores, are designated consecutively by letters from A to E.

In making up these classes the following rules must be adopted:

1. Where a short class is necessary, due to odd entry list, the short class shall head the list.

2. Where the line of division falls in a number of tie scores, the contestants are assigned to the class in which the majority of the scores appear.

3. Where an equal number of tie scores appear on either side of the line, contestants shall be assigned to the head of the lower class.

4. Where the original division is changed, due to tie scores, this change shall apply only to the classes directly affected and the original division shall continue in the other classes.

Money or Prize Division

The prizes are then divided into as many equal parts as there are classes; and the high man or men in each class are the winners of the prizes allotted to that class.

Usual Division of Money in Each Class

High Gun or Rose System

60–40%.....1 to 5 shooters.....6–4
50–30–20%.....6 to 15 shooters.....5–3–2
40–30–20–10%..16 to 25 shooters....4–3–2–1

Merchandise or trophies are always awarded according to the High Gun System. Ties are shot off, or determined by lot, at the option of the tournament management.

New Handicap Idea

Out in the Middle West trapshooting clubs are giving a new handicap system a trial, which so far has proven very satisfactory. The idea is that each man shall start at 16 yards, and that his score in each event shall govern his handicap for the next event.

In the following schedule of a 20-target, five-event race, John Doe, starting at 16 yards, breaks 20 targets in the first event. He must then shoot from 20 yards in the second event, and breaking 19, he shoots from 19 yards in the third event. In this event he breaks only fourteen, which necessarily puts him at sixteen yards in the fourth event, when he breaks 19, and establishes himself at the 19-yard mark for the fifth event.

Handicap: 16 yards:	1st Event Hdcp.	Score	2d Event Hdcp.	Score	3d Event Hdcp.	Score	4th Event Hdcp.	Score	5th Event Hdcp.	Score	Total
John Doe	16	20	20	19	19	14	16	19	19	17	89x100
R. Roe	16	19	19	18	18	17	17	19	19	19	92x100
B. Smith	16	18	18	17	17	16	16	20	20	18	89x100
J. Jones	16	17	17	16	16	20	20	17	17	18	88x100
T. Bones	16	16	16	20	20	19	19	19	19	18	92x100

The advantage of this system is its absolute simplicity. No extra work is required of the secretary or handicap committee, and every man always knows where he shoots in the next event. When this system is worked in 15 or 25-target events, a perfect score, 15 or 25 respectively, places the shooter at the 20-yard mark. Every target less than a perfect score places him one yard forward of the 20-yard mark, until the 16-yard mark is reached.

Handicaps for Small Gauge Guns

The official rules of trapshooting recognize only the standard twelve-gauge gun, and no provision is made in the way of handicaps for larger or smaller gauge guns. In tournaments conducted according to Interstate Rules guns larger than 12-gauge are barred, while users of smaller gauge guns must compete on the same basis as those using 12-gauge guns.

In club shoots rules may be made to govern conditions as they exist. For instance, if several of the shooters have 16 or 20-gauge guns and do not wish to change, they may, if the other members are agreeable, be allowed to shoot at 14 yards, against 16 yards for the others.

Occasionally a shooter will show up at a club with a 10-gauge gun. He should be handicapped to 18 or 19 yards if competing against shooters using 12-gauge guns.

Systems of Money Divisions

Booklets on this subject are published by the Winchester Repeating Arms Co., New Haven, Conn., and by the Remington Arms-Union Metallic Cartridge Co., Woolworth Building, New York City. Write for them.

Novelty Shoots

There are many interesting novelty events that can be staged to add zest to the sport and keep up the enthusiasm of the members. A few suggestions are given here. Many others can be worked up. Every club secretary should be thinking continually of ways to surprise the club with something new. Those ways which entail a distinct obligation on the part of each member to come out and shoot will be most effective and beneficial.

Team Shoot

Losing team to pay for dinner of winners. Dinner not to cost over $1.00 or $1.25 per plate; or winning team to receive a prize which can be shot for and become the property of some member of the winning team.

Choose two captains and name each team, Red and Blue, for example. Captains draw lots for first choice, and choose the members alternately from the club roster. Give the shoot plenty of newspaper publicity and make sure that the captains get out their team members for the contest. Make the program small, not over 25 targets per man if there are over fifty contestants in the shoot.

Variety Shoot

Classify members according to their ability into five classes: A, B, C, D and E, and have two or three prizes for each class. Have program for the afternoon consist of 50 targets, as follows:

Class A shooters to stand at 21 yards.
" B " " " " 20 "
" C " " " " 18 "
" D " " " " 16 "
" E " " " " 14 "

Event 1, 10 pairs of doubles (20 targets).
Event 2, 20 single targets, gun at shoulder.
Event 3, 10 single targets, gun at hip when target is called.

Quail Shoot

One man up, gun in hand, not at shoulder, he starts to walk from the 23-yard mark towards the trap house, and gets his targets any time during this walk. At discretion of puller contestants may be allowed to walk beyond the trap house.

Miss-and-Out Event

Classify shooters into five classes by letter. Have event run for three or four regular shooting days, and sell entries at a price which will permit buying one or two trophies for longest straight runs. Have

Class E shooters stand at 14 yards.
" D " " " 16 "
" C " " " 18 "
" B " " " 19 "
" A " " " 20 "

Throw the targets full fifty yards. Shoot one man up at a time, all shooting to be done from No. 2 position. A man making his first "miss" is out for that day's shoot unless he re-enters.

Change Guns Event

Line up the shooters in squads of five. Each shooter to use his own gun at his original position and to leave it there when he moves up, so that he will shoot a different gun at each of the five positions. The change gun feature can be applied to any ordinary event.

Hand Trap Event

Shooters line up in squad formation. Hand trap operator stands about two yards to left of shooter at No. 1 position. He throws the targets as fast as he can work the trap, and at any speed, angle, height or distance he desires. A small trophy should be offered for the best score in a 25-bird event.

Hand Trap Event No. 2

Have a portable barricade for the trap operator and locate it in front of the trap house, about 35 yards in front of the shooters. Incomers, cross-fliers and overhead targets should be thrown from

behind the barricade. These will prove so puzzling, and the novelty of shooting at them appeal so strongly to the average shooter, that he will hardly need any further inducement in the way of a trophy to enter.

Overhead Targets

If the club house has an upstairs balcony or porch, a hand trap or expert type trap can be used to throw overhead targets for the shooters, who will stand in their regular positions at the score, shooting away from the club house as always. This event is particularly popular with the game shooters.

Ghost Target Events

Paint one or more targets white, and instruct the trap boy to throw one occasionally as he comes to it. The shooter who breaks the "ghost" target wins the trophy, or, if there is more than one "ghost" and only one trophy, the shooter breaking the most "ghosts" wins it. Ties are decided by drawing lots. Whenever a "ghost" target is missed it should be replaced by another.

Vegetable Shoot

A vegetable shoot can be held, each contestant bringing something in the vegetable line to put up as a prize. Choice of prizes to go to the highest score, and so on until all the prizes have been awarded.

Grab Bag Shoot

Each contestant brings some article valued at from 50 cents to $1.00, and all prizes are placed in a bag or covered box. The winners draw their prizes without opportunity of seeing what they select. First choice may be awarded to either the highest or lowest score. A grab bag event is a whole lot of fun.

Colored Target Event

For a 25-bird event prepare 15 colored targets, five each of white, red and yellow. Have the trap boy scatter these among enough regular targets so that they will all be thrown by the end of the event. Allow one point for each ordinary target broken, two for a white one, three for a red, and four for a yellow. Deduct a like amount for

each colored target missed or refused, if a fair target. The element of chance is so great in this event that it is bound to be exciting. Any other colors or values can be substituted for those suggested.

Quaker Shoot

Not a voice is heard from the firing line. The puller pulls the trap at his own sweet will, and the shooters abide by the consequences, accepting any bird but a broken one. A shooter who speaks, for any reason whatever, before the event is over has one point deducted from his score for each such break, or, if previously agreed upon, may be barred from further participation in the event.

Wiping His Eye

Jones, Smith, Brown, Green and Bell take their positions in the order stated. When Jones' time comes to shoot, Smith gets ready. If Jones breaks his target it is counted for him, but if he misses, Smith shoots at it. If Smith breaks it it is counted for him. Then Smith gets a shot at his own regular target, which, if he misses, Brown shoots at, and so on throughout the event. The man that has broken the most targets is declared the winner.

Pick-Up Race

Two men to team—five teams to squad. The first time down the line the left-hand man on each team shoots first, his partner shooting at the same target in case he misses. If the partner breaks it, it is counted for the team. On the second time down the right-hand man shoots first, and his partner protects him. Targets are scored as lost when partners shoot out of turn; when both partners shoot together; or when the second partner shoots after the first partner has broken his target.

Snipe Shooting

The shooter walks directly forward from a point about 25 feet in front of the trap, the birds being thrown over his head, angles, speed and time of flight to be at the puller's pleasure. When pump or automatic guns are used, they are to be filled full and shot empty before the shooter returns to start over, and the same target must be shot at until it is broken, touches the ground, or the gun is empty. When double guns are used two shooters take the field at the same

time, one loading while the other shoots, in order to save time. A shooter is required to take one step between each shot, and it is up to him to be looking for flying birds at all times, because the referee is watching him for carelessness in allowing birds to escape his sight, and a target can be scored against the shooter who passes it up, if, in the referee's opinion, it should have been plain to him. A shooter shoots 25 shells while in the field, coming back to the starting point to reload his gun each time it is empty. Each shot counts just what is done. The score to be the total breaks out of 25 shells.

This event is very interesting and very helpful to one's field shooting. With a good, fair referee there is slight chance of any shooter getting any advantage over the others in the event.

Class Challenge Cup Conditions

A set of class challenge cups will furnish a very interesting series of contests in any club. The number of classes and the conditions named here are merely suggestive:

The competiton shall be for three cups, one each in classes A, B and C, and shall be inaugurated by a 25-target, no handicap, shoot, open to all members of the classes named.

Challenge matches may be shot only on regular shooting days and between shooters of the same class, all challenges to be made to the secretary in writing.

Challenge matches to be at 50 targets, in two events of 25 targets each, ties to be shot off in additional 25-target events, the winner to hold the cup as long as he can successfully defend it, providing that if unchallenged before three regular shooting days have passed, the cup must be turned in and placed in open competition, and providing also that the holder must accept any challenge within two weeks from the date it is made or surrender the cup to the challenger, who must then defend it.

A shooter successfully defending the cup is entitled to have his name engraved upon it, but not a shooter who won the cup in open competition or by the forfeiture of a challenge.

Any holder of a class challenge cup who has been raised to a higher class must turn the cup in for open competition.

After each cup has been won five or more times in challenge matches, it becomes the property of the shooter winning it the most times. Ties are decided by shooting a match at 50 targets per man, distance handicap to govern.

Club Championship Matches

Matches for the club championship may be conducted along lines similar to the class challenge matches. Handicaps may be allotted according to the known average of the shooters, thus offering all an incentive to compete. If only the best shots are to have an opportunity of winning then the handicap feature should be omitted.

Inter-club Team Races

Match races or team shoots with other nearby clubs are fruitful of much keen interest and good fellowship. The shooters will be glad to entertain visitors on their grounds and to be entertained in turn. The home club should offer several suitable prizes for the visitors, as well as for their own members.

As such a shoot would usually be held in an afternoon, the program should be limited to 50 targets per man. Each club to shoot as many men as it can muster, the total scores of the five or ten highest men on each side to determine the winning team.

Beginners' Shoots

A Beginners' Day Shoot once or twice a year will increase the club membership, and keep it before the public as a live organization. Many good sportsmen and field shooters would like to learn trapshooting, but have not joined your club because they lack the courage to face the traps before a crowd of spectators and experienced shooters. Set aside a day for them and get all the club members working for the success of the affair. Give it plenty of newspaper publicity. Offer a trophy to the beginner making the best score, and a prize to the member getting out the most beginners. See that each beginner is provided with a gun and that the proper and safe handling of the same is explained to him by one of your experienced shooters. Throw targets 35 to 40 yards and at slight angles so that they will be as easily hit as possible, and do not have the Beginners' Event over 25 targets if you expect them to come back and eventually to join the club.

Trophy Spoon Contests

Sterling silver spoons are among the most popular prizes used by trapshooting clubs. They cost about $1.25 each when purchased in lots of a dozen or more, which enables many clubs to offer a spoon in every class each regular shooting day. Where surplus funds are

not available an extra entrance fee of ten or fifteen cents each may be asked to cover the trophy.

Members who wish to purchase extra spoons to complete sets should be allowed to do so at regular club rates. The conditions governing trophy spoon contests may be arranged to suit each particular club. Winning a spoon should raise the contestant to the next highest class.

Contest for Double-Target Trophy

Double-target contests are popular with almost all shooters, especially those who hunt ducks or upland game. The practice at doubles noticeably improves the work of those who are inclined to shoot too slowly at single targets.

In a series of contests for a double-target trophy, 12 pairs (24 targets) should be shot at for each of, say ten, consecutive shooting days. The shooter making high actual score each day to win a leg on the cup. No shooter to be credited with more than one leg, and the ten winners of legs to shoot a final contest for the trophy at 25 pairs each.

Merchandise Shoots

Once or twice a year a good list of prizes can be secured through solicitation from club members, prominent individuals and local business houses. The latter will be particularly liberal if there is a printed program of the shoot, in which their advertisements can appear in exchange for merchandise, and if they are permitted to display various trophies in their windows, and are listed in the local papers as contributors.

The program should not call for over 100 targets, nor the entrance fee exceed $2.00. The extra dollar being applied to the purchase of trophies, as the more prizes there are the larger will be the attendance. The Lewis Class System should be used to insure a fair distribution to the shooters.

Money Shoots or Sweepstakes

Shooting for money, or "little side bets," has destroyed many fine gun clubs, and should be eliminated from any club that hopes to enjoy a full measure of success. A little optional sweep of twenty-five or fifty cents on an event doesn't seem harmful, yet it increases the expenditure beyond the limit that many good sportsmen can afford, and must eventually restrict the sport to the wealthier members of the club, or kill it altogether.

Registered Shoots

The matter of holding a registered shoot is one that should not be decided hastily. Unless a club has two automatic traps, good grounds, can stand the expense should a deficit occur, and has eight or ten members willing to shoot through the entire program, it should not consider holding a registered shoot. Such a shoot also entails considerable expense to the club and the members, as well as a lot of detail work which must be taken care of in the best possible manner if the shoot is to be successful. Until a registered shoot can be undertaken with perfect confidence, the members of a trapshooting club should content themselves with attending such shoots at other places.

How to Conduct Tournaments

A tournament to be successful and perfectly satisfactory to the contestants must be well thought out beforehand and conducted with system from start to finish. Some of the things that the club management must consider very carefully are:

Date of Shoot—A date should be selected and announced in the shooting weeklies at least two months in advance, and this date should not conflict with a shoot at some nearby club and so detract from both. If a registered tournament is planned, and money and trophy contributions expected, the matter should be taken up with the INTERSTATE ASSOCIATION, 219 Coltart Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa., on or before February 15th, of any year. If contributions are not expected, and it is desired to have the shoot registered so that the scores made will appear in the official averages, application for registration must be made at least forty-five days in advance of the date of the shoot or it cannot be granted.

Program—The printed program should be issued and mailed to the shooters fully three weeks in advance of the date of the tournament. This will give them an opportunity of talking it over with their friends, of writing to those at a distance, and of making the necessary arrangements to attend.

Cashier—This is an important position and one that can hardly be well filled by a novice. It is also dangerous to depend altogether upon a professional trapshooter or some outside man, as, at the last moment, something may prevent his coming. If outside help is depended upon, the cashier should be properly remunerated for his

services. However, the club should have some one among its members who can cashier a shoot or who will take the necessary pains to equip himself, when it will be entirely independent in this matter.

The Day of the Shoot—On this day the cashier should be on hand at least an hour before the time for starting. He should have his cashier sheets with him and a liberal supply of change (nickels, dimes and quarters), so that the preliminary work of entering the contestants, etc., can be arranged without delaying the shoot in any way.

The referees, squad sheet writers, squad hustlers, trap pullers and trap boys, all of whom should be arranged for in advance, should also be on hand at least an hour before the shoot. The field captain should be with them, to see that they are all properly instructed in their duties and that the instructions are followed.

The field captain should also make certain that a good supply of squad sheets and bulletin sheets are at hand, and that the score boards are ready. He should see that the traps are well oiled, in good working order, and regulated to throw targets in conformity with the Interstate Association Rules. A supply of extra springs should be on hand to make repairs quickly in case of a breakdown. The trap house should be well filled with targets, and a reserve supply handy.

Entries—Shooters should be requested to enter for the entire day's program right at the start, with the understanding that they can withdraw at any time, if necessary. It is very inconvenient for the cashier and squad sheet writer to contend with a situation where shooters enter for an event at a time, and it is quite unnecessary when shooters can withdraw after any event.

Disposition of Squad Sheets—The squad sheets should be kept in regular order, event by event, and squad following squad. They should be available for reference during the shoot, and should be preserved for at least a month thereafter, to settle any dispute as to the score made by a contestant.

State Association of Trapshooting Clubs

There is a State Association of trapshooting clubs in practically every state in the Union. Every club should join the association in its state. The name and address of the secretary can be obtained

from the Du Pont Company. The initiation fees and annual dues are nominal, while the club and its members will obtain benefits from affiliation with such an organization many times in excess of the outlay.

Each year a State Shoot is held on the grounds of one of the associated clubs, and shooters come from all sections to compete for the fine list of trophy and money prizes offered. At the State Shoot, also, the Amateur State Championship event is staged. It is a great honor to win a State Championship, and the champion, or runner up, is eligible to compete in the event known as The National Amateur Championship, which is held in connection with the Grand American Handicap each year.

Leagues of Trapshooting Clubs

Trapshooting leagues have proven a wonderful stimulus to the sport, because the shooters participating in league contests have found them a most enjoyable form of competition. Where three or more clubs are located within a reasonable distance of each other, an attempt should be made to form a league, with the idea of holding a series of shoots between them. These leagues result in an intense sectional rivalry, which often engages a large part of the populations in the towns where the different clubs are located.

For full information on the organization and conduct of trapshooting leagues, write the Du Pont Company for its "Trapshooting Leagues" booklet, which will be sent free on request of anyone interested.

The Interstate Association

The Interstate Association is the governing body of trapshooting. It is composed of the leading gun, powder, shell and lead manufacturers of the United States, and has been in existence for nearly a quarter of a century, during which time it has brought order and permanency out of the chaotic conditions existing in the early history of the sport. It is almost entirely due to the efforts and the efficient management of the Interstate Association that trapshooting has disclosed its real worth, and is organized and conducted on its present high plane.

The Interstate Association aims to advance the interests of trapshooters and to popularize the sport in every legitimate way and all the time. Its functions are to assist to the best of its ability those wishing to organize gun clubs; to aid in the formation and

upbuilding of trapshooting leagues and state associations; to arrange for and manage the Grand American Trapshooting Tournament and the Subsidiary Tournaments; to register tournaments for gun clubs, contributing in money and prizes to the success of such tournaments as, in its opinion, are most deserving; to maintain an accurate record of the scores made by contestants in registered tournaments, and to issue same in book form year by year; to provide the rules that govern such registered contests, and to see that these rules are properly interpreted and followed.

It is apparent that the management of the Interstate Association has plenty to do, and that the scope and range of its activities, covering the entire country, must occasionally subject it to individual or local criticism; yet it has been so fair in all its rulings, and so clearly sincere in its desire to do the utmost for the sport as a whole, that it has merited and enjoys almost universal approval, and the sport of trapshooting is immeasurably in its debt.

The Grand American Handicap

This is the premier event of the trapshooting world. It is staged yearly under the auspices of the Interstate Association. To win it is the highest honor that can come to a trapshooter. The event consists of 100 single targets, handicaps 16 to 23 yards, and is open to amateur shooters only. Every shooter who can spare the time should attend this tournament. In 1915 there were 838 entries in the Grand American Handicap event.

Subsidiary Handicaps

There are usually four subsidiary handicaps held under the supervision of the Interstate Association. These are next in importance to the Grand American Handicap as classic trapshooting events. They take their names from the sections in which they are held, the Southern Handicap, Eastern Handicap, Western Handicap and Pacific Coast Handicap being staged every year. It is considered a great honor to win any of these events, and they are always well worth attending.

The American Amateur Trapshooters' Association

The increasing sentiment for a national organization that would unite the 500,000 amateur trapshooters in one body found expression on December 23, 1915, in the birth of the AMERICAN

AMATEUR TRAPSHOOTERS' ASSOCIATION. A careful study of the aims of this association makes it apparent that no club can afford not to affiliate. These aims may be summarized as follows:

First—To strengthen and stimulate the component club organizations by increasing attendance and interest in the regular club shoots.

Second—To encourage a greater development of the individual shooter by providing a progressive incentive for regular practice at the traps.

Third—To provide opportunity for recognition for the shooter of average ability as well as for the expert.

Fourth—To cooperate with club secretaries by affording a clearing house for the interchange of helpful information.

Fifth—To unite in one organization the 500,000 trapshooters and nearly 5,000 trapshooting clubs.

Sixth—To increase interest in the sport by the publication of club news and the dissemination of publicity.

Seventh—To undertake any endeavor that may improve the conditions affecting the sport of trapshooting.

Organization

The American Amateur Trapshooters' Association is a corporation without capital stock. It is not operated for financial profit; private property of the members is not subject to the payment of any corporate debts whatever. The membership is limited to white, amateur trapshooters.

For complete information regarding this association, its officers, dues, trophies and official organ, *The American Shooter*, write AMERICAN AMATEUR TRAPSHOOTERS' ASSOCIATION, 200 Maryland Trust Building, Baltimore, Maryland.

Newspaper Publicity

We have already spoken several times of newspaper publicity, but it will bear repetition. Publicity is necessary for the club because it keeps it before the public; gives the members an added incentive for good scores, and their friends an interesting topic of conversation. It attracts many persons to the club events who will eventually join.

Announcements of scheduled trapshooting events and full reports of shoots is the kind of news every editor is glad to get; and club secretaries have no more important duty than to send these items in promptly, while they still have their full news value.

Many papers will be thankful for occasional interesting articles dealing with prominent shooters of national reputation; with large and important tournaments, such as the Grand American Handicap, the State Shoot, etc.; with exceptional performances at the traps anywhere; and with new developments in the sport itself.

Some few clubs frown on publicity and do not have their scores published. This is rather a narrow-minded attitude, which the progressive members should eliminate, if they want their club to be recognized as a progressive organization.

Sporting Weeklies and Monthlies

The weekly and monthly magazines devoted to the interests of sportsmen generally have been a great factor in the development of trapshooting, and deserve cooperation and support. Most of these sporting magazines maintain trapshooting departments and are constantly on the lookout for live items. They are eager to publish scores made in tournaments and club shoots. Club secretaries should see that they are supplied with these scores and with any happenings of interest.

Sporting Weeklies

American Shooter	Maryland Trust Building	Baltimore, Md.
Sportsmen's Review	15 W. Sixth Street	Cincinnati, Ohio.
Breeder and Sportsman	San Francisco	California.
Sporting Life	34 S. Third Street	Philadelphia, Pa.
American Field	Masonic Temple	Chicago, Ill.

Sporting Monthlies

Forest and Stream	32 Thames Street	New York City.
Outdoor Life	1824 Curtis Street	Denver, Colo.
Field and Stream	456 Fourth Avenue	New York City.
National Sportsman	73 Federal Street	Boston, Mass.
Outer's Book	Milwaukee	Wisconsin.
Outing	114 W. Thirty-sixth Street	New York City.
Western Field	American Bank Building	Los Angeles, Cal.
Rod and Gun in Canada	Woodstock	Ontario, Canada.
Sports Afield	542 S. Dearborn Street	Chicago, Ill.
Western Graphic	2285 Howard Street	San Francisco, Cal.

Entertainment of Visitors

Most clubs will entertain a good many visitors in the course of a year. It should be the endeavor of the entertainment committee, the officers and individual members not only to make these visitors thoroughly welcome, but to make an asset of their presence by encouraging in them an active interest in the sport.

Urge every visitor, if possible, to try his hand at the shooting game. Lend him a gun and a few shells, and proceed to coach and instruct him in the art. If he breaks one or two targets out of the first five, he will want to try a few more, and, more than likely, after fifteen or twenty-five shots, he will be open to a suggestion of membership. The club should always have a few open boxes of shells that can be used to entertain visitors, and should, of course, absorb the expense for targets.

Visitors always advertise a club according to the reception they receive. Don't let it be said of your club or its members that it is lacking in courtesy and attention to guests, whether invited or otherwise.

Local Shooters Who Are Not Members

A club is often confronted with the problem of what to do with local shooters who come out to shoot more or less frequently and still do not care to join the club. Inasmuch as they are not eligible to compete for prizes, there can be no harm in allowing them to shoot for practice. If they like to shoot and are accorded proper treatment, there is every prospect that they will eventually apply for membership. Probably the best way to settle a matter of this kind is to leave it in the hands of the president, to take such action as he sees fit, as it is really a matter that comes under the president's jurisdiction.

Guns Owned by Club

Two or three club-owned guns, of standard American makes, will prove a valuable asset. Members and visitors who do not have guns, or did not bring them along, should be allowed to use these club guns without charge. They will tide over the members who have not bought guns until such time as they are able to do so, or have made up their minds as to just what to order.

It should be fully understood that these guns are not intended for use anywhere but at the club, and that the persons using them are responsible for their condition, so that they will be kept properly cleaned and oiled.

Electrotypes for Trapshooting Clubs

Electrotypes showing trapshooting scenes suitable for use on letter-heads or tournament programs, may be secured at small cost from the American Type Founders Association, Philadelphia, Pa. The Du Pont Company also has several electrotypes of a somewhat different character, but suitable for the same uses, any of which will be sent free upon request. The use of these will give a distinctive character to the notices and other communications that go from the club to its members, to the public and to other clubs, and will indicate an organization of standing.

Precautions and Suggestions Posters

Safety First should be uppermost in the minds of the shooters at all times. If you have not already done so, send to the Du Pont Company at once for a supply of Precautions and Suggestions Posters, which will be sent without charge. These posters are printed on cloth in large type. They should be posted prominently about the club house and grounds, and the attention of new and careless shooters called to them. The officers of the club should sharply criticize anyone who carelessly or intentionally disregards these common-sense rules.

For the benefit of the individual reader and the temporary instruction of gun clubs, we give here the text of this poster:

ATTENTION!

Precautions and Suggestions

For the safety of those taking part in trapshooting, as well as the onlookers, the following precautions should be observed and rigidly enforced:

No. 1. Do not place a shell in your gun except when standing at the firing line in your proper place in the squad, and with the muzzle of the gun pointed in the direction of the trap house.

No. 2. Place only ONE shell in your gun when shooting *single* targets, and but TWO shells when shooting *double* targets.

No. 3. When changing from position No. 5 to position No. 1 at the firing line be sure to have your gun open and unloaded.

No. 4. Never, under any circumstances, point a gun in the club house, or in the direction of any other person. If you pick up a gun to look it over, make certain both chamber and magazine are empty before pulling the trigger.

No. 5. Do not question the referee's decision. The person shooting is the least competent to judge the result of a shot, as the recoil of the gun for an instant impairs the shooter's vision.

No. 6. Avoid being late in getting to your place on the firing line, and otherwise extend to contestants the same courtesies you expect to receive.

No. 7. Remain in your position at the firing line with the gun empty until the last man in the squad has finished shooting.

No. 8. Do not converse with your neighbor while at the firing line, or do anything that might disconcert others in the squad. Spectators and non-contestants should avoid loud talking, etc., which might have a tendency to embarrass or disconcert the shooters.

No. 9. Do not refuse a fair target. If at your call of "pull" a fair target leaves the trap and you do not shoot at it, the referee has no alternative but to call it "lost," and it will be scored as a "miss."

No. 10. Do not shoot at a target which leaves the trap broken. Such a target is "no bird," whether you hit it or not, and you must shoot over. Always carry two or three extra shells to take care of such emergencies.

No. 11. Do not accept a target which takes an extreme variation of height or angle of flight. Such a target is "no bird" if you refuse it, but if you accept it (shoot at it) you must abide by the result of your shot.

No. 12. Familiarize yourself with the "Rules of Trapshooting." You cannot be an experienced trapshooter until you know the rules of the game. Trapshooting Rules Booklet sent free upon request by the Du Pont Powder Co., Wilmington, Delaware.

By observing the above precautions there will be no unfortunate accidents to mar the pleasure of contestants or spectators during the progress of a sport that is at once the best, as well as the cleanest, in which both men and women can participate, and which is fast becoming so universally popular.

N. B.—Trapshooting clubs should furnish their trap boys with a flag or signal of some sort to be displayed when the boy wishes to leave the trap house and which should be in evidence during his absence therefrom.

Trapshooting Rules

Every trapshooter should be familiar with the rules governing the sport. A knowledge of them is absolutely essential to anyone who competes in large shoots and tournaments. The official rules of trapshooting are reproduced in book form by this company, and on request from the secretary of any trapshooting club we will send without charge as many of these booklets as are desired up to the full membership of the club.

Why Gun Clubs Fail

When we hear of a trapshooting club disbanding or going out of business, which does happen sometimes, we must not infer that trapshooting is lacking in the qualities which attract and hold red-blooded sportsmen. Investigation will always show that the club was inadequately supported from its inception, or that it was weakly officered and poorly conducted.

We have glanced, as we went along, at some of the rocks on which trapshooting clubs founder. We wish to call attention to them again and all together. To be forewarned is to be forearmed. If your club is to be permanently successful, avoid the following errors. If you have already adopted some, this is the time to discard them and to start aright:

Too much shooting ; that is, too many shoots and the shooting at too many targets by those not financially able to do so.

Grounds inconveniently located.

Too many tournaments.

Permitting sweepstakes in club events.

Monopolization of the offices, year after year, by a few members.

Lack of interest by club officials.

Poor system of handicapping in trophy contests, allowing the same few shooters to win practically all the prizes.

Absence of continued effort to secure new members.

Insufficient encouragement of novice shooters.

Lack of system in conducting events; no method for providing interesting trophy contests for the shooters.

Non-adherence to rules; throwing targets as hard as the trap will allow, thus keeping down the scores.

Disturbing influence of factions.

Failure to keep up equipment.

Shells and Targets

The Du Pont Company is frequently asked to quote quantity prices on loaded shells and clay targets, by trapshooting clubs and individuals who are under the impression that we manufacture or sell these commodities. This, however, is not the case, and we always suggest that supplies of this nature be bought from the local dealer, who will be glad to make a price in accordance with the quantity purchased, and to whom the business legitimately belongs.

It must be understood, however, that the Du Pont Company, as manufacturers of the highest and most popular grades of smokeless shotgun powders on the market, DUPONT, SCHULTZE and BALLISTITE, has a vital interest in inducing trapshooters to order their shells loaded with these powders. And as we can offer but the one great inducement of quality, we need only a few paragraphs to discuss the powder question.

The Powder Question

No shooter, whether a game or trapshooter, can afford to handicap his performance by not securing in his ammunition a powder that is safe, reliable and effective *at all times and under all conditions*. If he will trust himself to the oldest powder makers in America, and use one of those brands, which represent the highest powder perfection the world has yet reached, he will always shoot *a little better than he aims*. By this we mean that DUPONT, SCHULTZE and BALLISTITE powders are *plus* powders. The actual figures prove that there are more "hits," on the average, in a box of shells loaded with any one of these powders than in a box loaded with any other powder.

This extra efficiency is inherent in the extra care, the greater experience and the superior facilities with which Du Pont powders are made. We have perfected them with infinite pains, and maintain them with infinite caution. We are behind them with every atom of our ability, our interest and our reputation. Du Pont powders are supreme in every essential of pattern, velocity, smokelessness, comfort, safety and keeping quality. They clean easily and will not pit or corrode the gunbarrels or lock. They are the standard powders—the "all-over" powders; the powders that are easiest to get and hardest to do without. Each has its special perfection:

DUPONT (bulk) is the most popular smokeless shotgun powder in the world. More shooters use it than use all other powders combined. It generates a higher velocity than any other smokeless shotgun powder; its recoil is moderate and its patterns perfect.

BALLISTITE (dense) represents the acme of perfection in a dense smokeless shotgun powder. It is absolutely waterproof, may be immersed in water, dried, loaded and shot again with the best results. It gives a high velocity with even patterns and slight recoil.

SCHULTZE (bulk) is the "easy on the shoulder powder." It gives practically no recoil. It patterns perfectly, generates a high velocity, and is very pleasant to shoot.

Trapshooting club secretaries can reduce their assortment of shells to a minimum, and still satisfy their members and visiting shooters, by carrying only shells loaded with Du Pont powders in their club stock, for Du Pont powders have been before sportsmen so long (over 115 years) and with such an irreproachable record that they are known by and acceptable to all.

Shot, Patterns, Etc.—The patterns a 12-gauge gun will make with different loads and various sizes of shot are frequent subjects of discussion among shooters. A standard shot table, showing the number of pellets in any given charge of shot, and the number of pellets the average gun will pattern with the same, is appended, and will prove interesting for reference purposes:

Table showing quantity of shot placed in 30-inch circle at 40 yards, using varying charges of all standard sizes shot.

Tatham Shot	7/8 oz.						1 oz.						1 1/8 oz.						1 1/4 oz.					
Size of Shot	Number Pellets in charge	Cyl. Bore 40%	Imp. Cyl. Bore 50%	Modified Choke 60%	Imp. Mod. Choke 67½%	Full Choke 75%	Number Pellets in charge	Cyl. Bore 40%	Imp. Cyl. Bore 50%	Modified Choke 60%	Imp. Mod. Choke 67½%	Full Choke 75%	Number Pellets in charge	Cyl. Bore 40%	Imp. Cyl. Bore 50%	Modified Choke 60%	Imp. Mod. Choke 67½%	Full Choke 75%	Number Pellets in charge	Cyl. Bore 40%	Imp. Cyl. Bore 50%	Modified Choke 60%	Imp. Mod. Choke 67½%	Full Choke 75%
T T T T	21	8	10	12	14	16	24	9	12	14	16	18	27	11	13	16	18	20	30	12	15	18	20	23
T T T	24	9	12	14	16	18	27	11	13	16	18	20	30	12	15	18	20	22	34	14	17	20	23	26
T T	27	11	13	16	18	20	31	12	14	18	21	23	35	14	17	21	23	26	39	16	19	23	26	29
T	32	13	16	19	22	24	36	14	17	21	23	25	40	16	20	24	26	30	45	18	22	27	30	34
B B B	37	15	18	22	25	28	42	16	21	25	28	31	48	19	24	28	32	36	53	21	26	31	35	40
B B	44	18	22	26	30	33	50	20	25	30	33	37	56	22	28	33	37	42	63	25	31	37	41	45
B	52	21	26	31	35	39	59	23	29	35	40	44	66	26	33	39	44	50	74	29	37	44	49	55
1	65	26	32	39	44	49	71	28	35	42	47	53	80	32	40	48	54	60	89	35	44	53	60	67
2	75	30	37	45	51	56	86	34	42	51	58	65	97	38	48	58	65	73	107	42	53	64	72	80
3	93	37	46	56	63	70	106	42	52	63	71	80	119	47	58	71	80	90	132	52	66	79	97	116
4	116	46	58	69	78	87	132	52	66	79	85	92	148	59	74	88	99	111	165	66	82	99	111	124
5	147	58	73	88	99	110	168	67	83	100	113	126	189	75	94	113	127	142	210	84	105	126	142	158
6	191	76	95	114	129	143	218	87	92	130	147	164	245	98	122	147	165	184	272	108	136	163	183	204
7	255	102	127	153	172	191	291	116	135	174	199	223	327	130	163	196	221	245	364	145	182	218	245	273
7½	302	120	151	181	204	227	345	138	173	207	233	259	387	154	193	232	261	290	431	172	215	258	290	323
8	350	140	175	210	236	263	399	159	199	239	269	300	449	179	224	269	303	337	499	199	249	299	336	374
8½	433	173	216	259	292	325	495	178	248	297	329	361	557	222	278	334	374	414	622	248	311	373	419	466
9	497	198	248	298	334	373	568	227	284	340	383	426	639	255	319	383	432	480	710	284	355	426	479	533
10	742	296	371	445	501	557	848	339	424	508	572	636	954	381	477	572	644	716	1060	424	530	636	715	795

PRINCIPAL PRODUCTS MADE BY

E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co.

Wilmington, Delaware, U. S. A.

HIGH EXPLOSIVES: Red Cross Extra; Red Cross Gelatin; Red Cross Farm and Stump Powders; Red Cross Straight; Du Pont Extra; Du Pont Gelatin; Du Pont Blasting Gelatin; Du Pont Stumping Powder; Du Pont, Red Star, Red Arrow (Export); Du Pont Straight; Repauno Gelatin; Repauno Stumping.

LOW EXPLOSIVES: Du Pont R. R. P.; Du Pont F, FF, FFF.

BLASTING POWDERS: "A" Brand having six standard granulations; "B" Brand having eight Standard granulations.

PERMISSIBLE EXPLOSIVES. Brands: Monobel and Carbonite—each brand made in six varieties to meet all blasting conditions in coal mines.

SPORTING POWDERS

Smokeless Shotgun—Brands: Dupont, Schultze, Empire (all Bulk) and Ballistite (Dense); Dupont Dense (Export).

Black Shotgun and Rifle—Brands: Du Pont Rifle; Hazard Kentucky Rifle; Golden Pheasant and Indian Rifle (Export).

Black Powder for Fireworks.

Smokeless Rifle and Pistol Powders—Dense Brands: Military Rifle Powders Nos. 10, 20, 21; Improved Military Rifle Powders Nos. 15, 16, 18; Du Pont Pistol Powder No. 3. **Bulk Brands:** No. 1 Rifle Smokeless; Schuetzen; Gallery Rifle Powder No. 75; Sporting Rifle Powder No. 80.

Partly Smokeless Rifle and Revolver Powder—Lesmok.

MILITARY EXPLOSIVES: Cannon Powders—Black and Smokeless; Nitrocellulose; Trinitrotoluol; Picric Acid; Detonators; Primers; Etc.

BLASTING SUPPLIES: Electric Blasting Caps; Delay Electric Igniters and Blasting Caps; Blasting Caps; Fuse; Electric Squibs; Blasting Machines; Fuse Lighters; Miners' Squibs; Leading and Connecting Wires; Cap Crimpers; Rheostats; Galvanometers; Thawing Kettles; Tamping Bags; Blasting Mats; Portable Magazines.

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